

Post-it Fax Note	7871	Date	2/14/03	# of pages	4
To	LOCAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION	From	KATHLEEN F. SLOBODA		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
WRITTEN TESTIMONY pages 29, 30, 31 & 32 CHAPTER 3					
(Augmenting Verbal Testimony Given 2/08/03 at Glennallen)					
L10) Kathy Sloboda Kathleen F. Sloboda					

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Local Boundary Commission
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Subpart (d) Copper River Basin Model Borough. The Copper River Basin is located in the eastern portion of Southcentral Alaska and encompasses 20,649 square miles. This region includes the Wrangell and St. Elias mountain ranges, the upper Copper River drainage, and nine of the 16 highest mountain peaks in North America. Glennallen is the business hub of the Copper River region. Employment is mostly associated with highway maintenance, small retail stores, local community organizations, medical services and schools. Local businesses primarily serve travelers along the Glenn Highway, providing gasoline, supplies and services. Federal and State agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, the Alaska State Troopers, the Department of Fish and Game, and a state highway maintenance crew are located in Glennallen.

The Copper River Basin Model Borough encompasses eighteen localities. These are Paxson (population 43); Tazlina (population 149); Silver Springs (population 130); Copperville (population 179); Slana (population 124); Willow Creek (population 201); Gakona (population 215); Glennallen (population 554); McCarthy (population 42); Copper Center (population 362); Gulkana (population 88); Tonsina (population 92); Kenny Lake (population 410); Chistochina (population 93); Mendeltna (population 63); Chitina (population 123); Nelchina (population 71) and Tolsana (population 27). Brief descriptions of land use and development in each of the Copper River Basin localities follows:

Paxson. Several residents of Paxson are State highway maintenance personnel and their families. There is no local school. There are five lodges with restaurants and bars in the area, several gift shops, a post office, gas station, grocery store and bunk house. This area has been a testing site for snowmachine companies for the past several years. One resident holds a commercial fishing permit.

Tazlina. Local businesses include a combined grocery, liquor, hardware, gas and sporting goods store, a wholesale bread distributor, a freight service, and an RV park. The Prince William Sound Community College, Division of Forestry, State Highway Maintenance station, Division of State Parks, and Division of

Population estimates are HIGH
They should be adjusted downward.
1500 to 550 people at Glennallen
these "communities"
are nothing more than
old homesteads that
have been subdivided &
sold.

5 LODGES?

1. PAXSON LODGE
2. MEARS LK LODGE
3. BLACK RAPIDS ?
4. SUMMIT LK LODGE
5. ? N.M.P. ?

dispute this # lodges +
bars, gift shops.
The P.O. is in the lodge
& walls of boxes in a
corner of lodge.

The last sentence should
be struck. It's irrelevant &
state commercial fishing
is nearly dead.

The freight service
& bread distributor, as
also owner of the combined
grocery, liquor, hardware, gas
sporting goods store - on
1 owned.

The PWSCC has been moved
is no longer there.

Pop: 149! No!

29
State
Forestry & Parks
should be combined

1 Communications are located in the area. Some residents rely on subsistence
2 fishing and hunting.

3
4 **Silver Springs.** The economy is based on local services and businesses, the
5 National Park offices, and highway-related tourism. Two RV Parks and three
6 river boat charter services operate from Copper Center. Many residents depend
7 on subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering.

8
9 **Copperville.** This community was developed during Trans-Alaska pipeline
10 construction. Residents are employed in government, schools, retail businesses
11 and other services along the Richardson Highway. Subsistence is important to
12 the community.

13
14 **Slana.** The nearby Nabesna Mine opened in 1923 and operated sporadically
15 through the late 1940s. The mine employed 60 people at its height. Slana
16 developed rapidly in the 1980s when homesteads were offered for settlement by
17 the federal government. The community is comprised primarily of homesteaders.
18 The last location of BLM's homestead program, individuals received 5 acres of free
19 land in Slana. A roadside lodge provides groceries, gas, liquor, an auto
20 mechanic and RV parking. Other local businesses include a general store, art
21 gallery, canoe rental, bed & breakfast, snowmachine sales and solar panel sales.
22 A National Park Ranger Station and state highway maintenance camp are
23 located nearby. Subsistence activities supplement income. Two residents hold
24 commercial fishing permits.

25
26 **Willow Creek.** The economy is based on local services and businesses, the
27 National Park offices, and highway-related tourism. Many residents depend on
28 subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering.

29
30 **Gakona.** Gakona depends upon local businesses and seasonal tourist travel.
31 There is a motel, restaurant, bar, newspaper print shop, sawmill and dog sled
32 maker in Gakona. Summers provide income for local fishing and hunting guides,
33 rafting operations and outfitters. Three residents hold commercial fishing permits.
34 Some residents rely on subsistence activities and trapping.

35
36 **Glennallen.** Glennallen is the business hub of the Copper River region. Local
37 businesses serve area communities and Glenn Highway traffic, providing
38 gasoline, supplies and services, schools and medical care. State highway
39 maintenance and federal offices are in Glennallen. A visitors' information center
40 and several RV parks serve independent travelers. The Wrangell St. Elias Visitor
41 Center and National Park Headquarters was recently completed. Unemployment
42 is low. Four residents hold commercial fishing permits. Offices for the Bureau of
43 Land Management, Alaska State Troopers, and the Dept. of Fish and Game are
44 located here. There are several small farms in the area.

*DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS ?? W...
Not that I ever heard of it & live in
and am a resident of Taylor*

hear about most or all

*Strike NPS - they moved
to Taylor area
Strike this
redundant &
misleading info -
about this description
is not about Silver
Springs.
Pop. 179? Maybe if
the combined with
the adjoining Taylor.*

*There is NO NPS
Office at Willow Cr.*

*combine motel & rest-
aurant, bar - all owned
by same party.*

*The newspaper print
shop is no longer
operating.
irrelevant. Commercial fishing
is in trouble.*

*Strike this - it is incorrect!
The DOT is at Taylor
not Glennallen.*

*NSE.
The Visitor center
NPS Headquarters
at Taylor.
it is HIGH!
Employment is seasonal
& limited.*

*"Several small farms"? There are
no sm or any other size farms !!*

McCarthy. The Kennecott copper mines and camp were established 1908 across from the Kennicott Glacier, 4.5 miles from McCarthy. Over its 30-year operation, \$200 million in ore was extracted from Kennecott, the richest concentration of copper ore known in the world. The mines closed in 1938 and McCarthy was largely abandoned. The historic mine buildings and artifacts are a summer tourism attraction. Employment is limited and seasonal. Local businesses include lodges, a museum, a small store, gift shop, and guide services.

Copper Center. The economy is based on local services and businesses, the National Park offices, and highway-related tourism. The Copper Center Lodge is on the National Register of Historic Roadhouses. Two RV Parks and three river boat charter services operate from Copper Center. Many residents depend on subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering. Eight residents hold commercial fishing permits.

Gulkana. Residents of Gulkana engage in subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering. Employment is limited to the village council and seasonal construction. There are no businesses in the village. The Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve provides some federal employment.

Tonsina. The 2000 census reported that eighteen individuals were employed at Tonsina. Roadhouses, the Ernestine State Highway Maintenance camp, and Alyeska Pipeline Pump Station 12 are the nearest employers. Subsistence activities supplement income.

Kenny Lake. Agriculture in the area produces hay, vegetables and cattle. Local employers include the REAA school, a sawmill and lumber business, a fur farm, a feed and seed supplier, a glass company and a construction company. Several residents are employed in North Slope petroleum production or support activities. Tourism activities include horse backpacking trips.

Chitochina. Most cash employment in Chitochina is seasonal. Subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering are the basis of the village's economy.

Mendeltna. The area offers a general store, a lodge, and air taxi services for fly-in fishing and mountaineering, and a state highway maintenance station. The largest RV campground in Alaska is located here, complete with showers, cabins, restaurant and bar. A local farm raises cattle and hogs, and tests varieties of seeds and grains for the Cooperative Extension Service. Seasonal employment, coupled with subsistence harvests, supports many Mendeltna residents.

Chitina. Employment is primarily with the village council, village corporation, or the National Park Service. Many residents are self-employed or work in retail establishments. The summer influx of fishermen, tourists and RV campers

← NPS is at Taylor!

← irrelevant, Not a source of State revenue. Since commercial fishing is now a questionable source of income.

← again!

← strike roadhouses (there are none!)

← one single owner

← The glass company is no longer in business

← again, another redundancy. The lodge is also part of the RV campground & owned by same person

1 provides some cash income in fish guiding and other services. Two residents
2 hold commercial fishing permits. Many villagers participate in subsistence
3 activities year-round.

4
5 **Nelchina.** The Little Nelchina State Recreation site at mile 137.6 offers camping
6 and a boat launch. The Nelchina Trail store and Cabins offers convenience items
7 and snowmachine support.

8
9 **Tolsona.** A roadhouse, liquor and convenience store, wilderness campground
10 and RV park are located in the area. Area lakes provide good trout fishing and
11 ice fishing for burbot in winter.

*Strike last
sentence, it is not
relevant to study.*

12
13 **Subpart (e) Glacier Bay Model Borough.** The Glacier Bay model boundaries
14 extend from northern Chichagof Island to Cape Fairweather. The economic base
15 of the region includes fishing, logging and tourism. Hoonah is the largest Tlingit
16 village in Alaska, located on the northeast shore of Chichagof Island. Hoonah's
17 economy is influenced by commercial fishing, logging and subsistence activities.
18 Pelican and Elfin Cove are involved in commercial fishing. In Tenakee,
19 commercial fishing is a source of income and tourism is now growing with the
20 108-degree hot springs and kayaking as the primary tourism focus. Gustavus sits
21 on the north shore of Icy Passage at the mouth of the Salmon River. Gustavus is
22 primarily a tourist community, supported by the nearby Glacier Bay National
23 Park. Regulations limit the number of boats entering Glacier Bay to protect the
24 humpback whales and other marine mammals that frequent the area.

25
26 The Glacier Bay Model Borough Boundaries encompass six settlements. These
27 are: Pelican (population 163); Whitestone Logging Camp (population 116);
28 Gustavus (population 429); Tenakee Springs (population 104); Hoonah
29 (population 860); Elfin Cove (population 32); and Game Creek (population 35).
30 Brief descriptions of land use and development in each of the Glacier Bay Model
31 Borough localities follows:

32
33 **Pelican.** Commercial fishing and seafood processing are the mainstays of
34 Pelican's economy. 41 residents hold commercial fishing permits. Most
35 employment occurs at Pelican Seafoods, which also owns the electric utility, a
36 fuel company and store. In February 1996, the plant was closed. It was
37 subsequently purchased by Kake Tribal Corp. and re-opened during the summer
38 of 1996, employing over 60 persons during the peak season. The plant
39 processes salmon, halibut, sablefish, rockfish, and dungeness crab.